[English]

Fall In Oil Prices

*425 SHRI MAHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PRTROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) wheather the world oil prices have registered a fall;

(b) if so, the percentage of fall in the oil prices in the major oil markets; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to tie-up its oil purchases from both spot market and for term contracts for 1992-93 with dip in the oil prices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b): Oil prices have fluctuated both upwards and downwards.

(c): Prices under term contracts as well as in spot purchases are market related and are linked to the international prices at the time of supplies. Spot purchases are made on a month to month basis whereas term contracts are generally for a year and are renewed at the time of expiry of contract period.

Hostels for SCs/STs

*426 SHRI S.B. THORAT:

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hostels constructed for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the last three years, State-wise and the locations thereof;

(b) the number of hostels under constructions and proposed to be constructed during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(c) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to each State for the purpose during the above period and allocation made for 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESARI): (a) to (c) The number of hostels constructed/under construction, their locations and the assistance provided in respect of Scheduled Caste boys and girls hostels for the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 and in respect of Scheduled Tribe boys and girls hostels of the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 are given in the statements I, II, III, IV, and V appended .

Financial assistance on matching basis will be provided to States/Union Territories both for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe boys and girls hostels with reference to their requirements, the proposals received from them and the utilisation of the assistance earlier released.